

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A drill bit assembly for direct removal of rock, comprising:

~~by means of~~

a rotatable bit assembly (5; 8) having a center point (6); that includes a number of

plural cutters or choppers (7; 9) included in said assembly and disposed at different distances from the center point,

~~characterised in that a number of~~

said cutters (7; 9) on the bit assembly (5; 8) are so disposed in relation to each other so that a subsequent cutter, seen in the direction of rotation, will engage an edge created by the action of a preceding cutter.

2. (currently amended) A drill bit assembly according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the bit assembly comprises a reamer (5) and cutters ~~or choppers (7)~~ disposed on the surface of said reamer, a first of said cutters disposed at a first diameter from the center point and a second of said cutters disposed at a second diameter from the center point.

3. (currently amended) A drill bit assembly according to Claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cutters (7) are mounted along one or more helical lines on the surface of the reamer (5).

4. (currently amended) A drill bit assembly according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the bit assembly is comprised of a cylindrical drum (8) and cutters ~~or choppers~~ (9) disposed on the outer barrel surface of the drum (8).

5. (currently amended) A drill bit assembly according to Claim 4, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cutters (9) are disposed along one or more helical lines on the drum surface.

6. (new) A drill bit assembly of claim 1, wherein the cutters are choppers.

7. (new) A drill bit assembly according to Claim 1, wherein, the bit assembly comprises a reamer (5) having a stinger (6) at the center point, and the cutters are disposed on the surface of said reamer with each adjacent cutter being at a increasing distance from the stinger.

8. (new) A drill bit assembly, comprising:

a reamer (5) configured to widen-ream a drilled hole and having an axis and an upper side;

a centrally positioned stinger (6) carrying the reamer, the stinger to project into a pre-drilled pilot hole and rotate the reamer about the reamer axis for being drawn upwards against overlying rock to therewith cut rock away; and

plural cutters (7) disposed on the upper side of the reamer at first and second diameters from the stinger, the cutters disposed relative to each other such that a subsequent cutter is at the first diameter and, as seen in a direction of rotation, will engage an edge formed by the cutting action of a preceding cutter at the second diameter, the second diameter being greater than the first diameter, wherein,

with the reamer rotated anti-clockwise a first cutter that comes into engagement with an edge of a predrilled pilot hole is the preceding cutter (7a) situated at the second diameter, and as the reamer rotates and the first cutter (7a) breaks loose a rock fragment which creates a fresh break edge with which the subsequent cutter (7b) at the first diameter, comes into engagement and breaks loose a fresh fragment.

9. (new) The drill bit assembly of claim 8, wherein the cutters are disposed along a helical line on the upper surface of the reamer.

10. (new) A drill bit assembly, comprising:

cylindrical drums (8) configured to widen-ream a drilled hole and having an axis and a barrel surface; and

plural cutters (7) disposed along a helical line extending on the outer barrel surface of the cylindrical drum, wherein,

the cutters are disposed relative to one another that a subsequent cutter (9b), as seen in the direction of rotation, will engage an edge created by cutting of a preceding cutter (9a).

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 1a and 1b. This sheet, which includes Figures 1a and 1b, replaces the original sheet including Figures 1a and 1b. In Figures 1a and 1b, the legend "PRIOR ART" has been applied.